

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00694 091350Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12
SSM-05 HA-05 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 MCT-01
DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-20 /175 W

-----050709 091357Z/46

R 091200Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5480
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

UNCLAS TRIPOLI 0694

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PEPR, ELAB, LY, XI

SUBJECT: PERMANENT SECRETARIAT OF ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS
ENDS SESSIONS

1. THE PERMANENT SECRETARIAT OF THE ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS
MET IN TRIPOLI APRIL 25-29. ARAB AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
WERE FOCUS OF DISCUSSIONS, AND IN ITS FINAL SESSION, THE
GROUP CALLED FOR "IMMEDIATE" AND "EFFECTIVE" ASSISTANCE FOR
THE PALESTINIAN "REVOLUTION" AND FOR THE LEBANESE NATIONAL
MOVEMENT AND REJECTED THE LEBANESE PARLIAMENT'S RECENT CALL
FOR A RESTRICTED ARMED PALESTINIAN PRESENCE IN LEBANON. FRENCH
"INTERVENTION" IN CHAD WAS CONDEMNED, AND THE SECRETARIAT
RESOLVED TO HOLD AN ARAB FORUM TO DISCUSS THE WAYS AND MEANS
NECESSARY FOR REALIZING "BASIC FREEDOMS FOR THE ARAB MASSES."
THE SECRETARIAT'S STRONGEST STATEMENTS WERE DIRECTED AT EGYPT
AND PRESIDENT SADAT. CALLING FOR TIGHTENING THE ENCIRCLEMENT
OF "THE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT AND FOR HIS COMPLETE ISOLATION,"
THE SECRETARIAT "COMMENDED" THE STRUGGLE OF "THE
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PAGE 02 TRIPOL 00694 091350Z

"EGYPTIAN PATRIOTIC MOVEMENT" WHICH IS APPEALING FOR
ASSISTANCE "TO OVERTHROW THE REGIME OF RETROGRESSION AND
SURRENDER IN EGYPT." EARLIER MEDIA REPORTING OF THE
SECRETARIAT'S MEETINGS MENTIONED THAT A DATE HAD BEEN
SET FOR A "TRIAL" OF SADAT BUT FINAL STATEMENT OF MEETING
CONTAINED NO REFERENCE TO THIS INITIATIVE.

2. ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF THE SECRETARIAT'S MEETINGS WERE SCANTY, AND THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN THESE MEETINGS IS UNKNOWN. IN ADDITION TO UNIDENTIFIED MEMBERS OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARIAT, HOWEVER, LOCAL MEDIA REPORTED THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS LABOR UNIONS AND ARAB "LIBERATION" AND NATIONAL MOVEMENTS ATTENDED THE TRIPOLI MEETINGS INCLUDING HAMID ABU BAKR, CHAIRMAN OF THE INTER-NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF ARAB TRADE UNIONS; ABD AL-HUSAYN MUSLIM, IDENTIFIED AS HEAD OF THE PALESTINE AND ARMED STRUGGLE BUREAU OF THE IRAQI BA'ATH PARTY; MUHAMMAD ZAHDI NASHASHIBI, PLO SECRETARY; ALI SAYF, HEAD OF THE PDRY TRADE UNION FEDERATION; AND ABDULLAH SA'ADA REPRESENTING THE LEBANESE NATIONAL MOVEMENT.

3. COMMENT. THIS WAS APPARENTLY THE FIFTH MEETING OF THIS LIBYA-STEERED GROUP WHICH IS AN AMORPHOUS PROPAGANDA BODY ENCOMPASSING GENERALLY RADICAL REPRESENTATIVES OF ARAB TRADE UNIONS, MASS ORGANIZATIONS, AND ARAB "LIBERATION" MOVEMENTS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARABS, MEETING PROCEEDINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TRIPOL00694
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780196-0399
Format: TEL
From: TRIPOLI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780576/aaaacngy.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 97feb0a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2743107
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PERMANENT SECRETARIAT OF ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS ENDS SESSIONS
TAGS: PEPR, ELAB, LY, XI, ARAB PEOPLES CONGRESS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/97feb0a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014